ATTORNEY-CLIEN PRIVILEGED CONFIDENTI INFORMATION

EXHIBIT A

Local Docket No. _____

Alcatel Reference No. _____

ALCATEL

ALCATEL eND INVENTION DISCLOSURE FORM

Please e-mail a **soft copy** of this Form to Dave Cordeiro at dave.cordeiro@ind.alcatel.com **and** send a **signed paper copy** to Dave (818-878-5080) at 26801 W. Agoura Rd., Calabasas, CA 91301. This Form is available on the Alcatel Engineering Website under Patent Information.

Invention Title: MPLS One Armed Routing

Inventor(s):

(ALL inventors must be listed whether they still work for Alcatel or not.)

Full Name	Employee No.	M/S	Phone	Alcanet
Guy C Erb	30095		(509)777-7282	
Business Division	**Alcatel Company**	**Citizenship**	**E-mail Address**	
CID	Packet Engines	USA	guy.erb@alcatel.com	
Supervisor Name, M/S, Phone No.				
Carl Paukstis (509) 777-7303				
Home Address	**City, State, Zip Code**			**County**
2121 W Falls Ave	Spokane, WA 99201			Spokane

Full Name	Employee No.	M/S	Phone	Alcanet
Jeremy Touve	30326		(509)777-7409	
Business Division	**Alcatel Company**	**Citizenship**	**E-mail Address**	
CID	Packet Engines	USA	Jeremy.touve@alcatel.com	
Supervisor Name, M/S, Phone No.				
Carl Paukstis (509) 777-7303				
Home Address	**City, State, Zip Code**			**County**
726 N. McDonald #116	Spokane WA, 99216			Spokane

Inventor Signature(s): 1) _____ Date: _____

2) _____ Date: _____

Witness Signatures: I have read and understand this invention disclosure:

1) _____ Date: _____

Local Docket No. _____

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2) _____ Date: _____

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FIT (Fiche D'Information Technique)
TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET
Alcatel eND Invention Disclosure Form

Title: MPLS One Arm Routing

Author(s) of this Disclosure: Guy C Erb

Date: Friday, March 09, 2001

Originating Business Division/Unit: CID

Other Affected Business Divisions:

Patent Application Questions (very important):

1 What is the prior art?

2 What is the problem(s) with the prior art?

(Why were these known/existing solutions not good enough or why do we need your invention?)
(explain in full detail below)

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3 How exactly does your invention solve the problem(s) with the prior art?

(Please give examples and drawings—Extra pages or specifications should be included)

(What is the technical problem that was solved? Make clear how this is different from existing solutions.)

This invention collapses the PHP device and the E-LSR into a single device whereas they are two devices in current implementations. The invention is detectable by the fact that both functions are present in a single device and no separate configuration of a PHP is needed.

4 What are the steps from when a packet enters the box to when it leaves the box for your new solution (or when the process or method starts to when the process or method stops)?

(explain in full detail)

1.) A MPLS packet enters the E-LSR
2.) Upon ingress the MPLS encapsulation is "popped" because:
    a. The MPLS label was a reserved label indicating PHP functionality is required.
    b. The MPLS label was not reserved but a label lookup indicated it should be popped
3.) After the MPLS label is removed (still at ingress) the underlying frame is examined and forwarded appropriately:
    a. Frame may be bridged
    b. Frame may be routed (IPX, Ipv4, Ipv6, AppleTalk....)
    c. Frame may even be routed back out same port (One arm router) either into another MPLS LSP or via its native encapsulation.

5 Evaluation and usage of the solution:

a. Date when the invention was conceived (drawn on white board, etc.)__**August 2000**

b. Date when the first sketches, diagrams, flow charts, or drawings of any kind were made.__**August 2000**

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(1) Where are they? **Chelan System Requirements Document @ Alcatel Spokane on Spike documentation server.**

(2) Drawing or Notebook Reference Number?

c. Date when first written description of the invention was made.__**same as above**

(1) Where is it?

d. Date when the first explanation of the invention was made to others__ **same as above**

(1) Where did this occur? **Alcatel Spokane**

(2) To whom was the explanation made? **Software Engineering**

e. Date when the first prototype of the invention was built (if not done, skip to next question—You do not have to have a prototype to apply for a patent)_ **February 1, 2001**

(1) Where was the prototype built? **Alcatel Spokane**

(2) Where is the prototype now? **Integral with ongoing 4.0 software development for PowerRail Distribution Router**

f. Date when the prototype of the invention was first tested (if not done, skip to next question) __**February 7, 2001**

(1) Where was the location of this first test? **Alcatel Spokane labs**

(2) Who witnessed this first test? **Spokane software engineering team**

g. Is either (e) or (g) above planned? If so, when?_____

h. Has the new solution been:
(1) Publicly disclosed;
(2) Placed in commercial use;
(3) Offered for sale or sold; **or**
(4) Described in a printed publication?

IF YES, when, where, and in what?

i. Date of envisaged first publication or sale or public use of a product using the new solution__ **Summer 2001**

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j. Is use in an Alcatel product planned? **YES** If so, which product? __**PDR with 4.0 software and Chelan blades**

6 Standards:

a. **Is it expected that this solution will be proposed to a standardization body? _NO**
   (1) **If so, when? _____ To which body? _____**
   (2) **If not, should it be proposed by someone to a standardization body?_____Which body?_____**

b. **Is there reason to believe that this technical solution is of particular interest for use by competitors? YES**
   (1) **If so, which competitors?____ Extreme, RiverStone ...**
   (2) **Why?_ Eliminate extra PHP switch and configuration/management issues. Increase flexibility of possible MPLS solutions again via elimination of PHP**

c. **Which markets and which kinds of products? __Metropolitan Area Network**
   (1) **For what particular reason? _____**

7 Related Invention Disclosures or Patent Applications (please list):

TMAN (Tunnelled Metropolitan Area Networks) - Transparent Lan Services provided via MPLS LSP.

8 Other Useful Information or Remarks:

13 References (please list):

[RFC 3032]: ***MPLS Label Stack Encoding,*** Rosen, et al., January 2001